Express Mailing Label No.: EV138528418US te of Deposit: February 24, 2003

Attorney Docket No: 21578-010

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CANT:

Wangh Lawrence J.

SERIAL NUMBER:

09/226,766

EXAMINER:

Crouch, Deborah

FILING DATE:

January 6, 1999

ART UNIT:

1632

FOR:

PRENATAL SCREENING

RECEIVE Pruary 24, 2004 oston, Massachusetts

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

MAR 0 3 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), Applicant hereby petitions for a three-month extension of time to respond to the August 23, 2002, Office Action in the above-identified application. With the extension, the Response is due on or before February 23, 2003. A check in the amount of \$465.00 in payment of the fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(a)(1), is enclosed herewith.

No additional fees are believed to be due. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311 (Reference No. 21578-010).

Respectfully submitted,

Ingrid Beattie 42,306

Attorney for Applicants MINTZ LEVIN c/o

One Financial Center

Boston, Massachusetts 02111

Tel.: (617) 542 6000 Fax: (617) 542-2241

TRA 1766972v1

02/27/2003 SSITHIB1 00000029 09226766 465.00 OP

01 FC:2253